

Ibn Ali announces amnesty

TUNIS (AP) — Tunisia's new president, Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, on Saturday pardoned 791 prisoners sentenced for dissident activities against his predecessor, Habib Bourguiba. Most of those freed were members of the illegal fundamentalist Islamic Tendency Movement (MIT). Another 1,683 non-political prisoners had their sentences reduced. Among those granted amnesty was Ahmad Mestiri, leader of the main opposition party, the Democratic Socialist Movement, who had been under house arrest. He was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for organising an illegal demonstration against the U.S. air attacks on the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in April 1986. The amnesty decree also reduced to 20 years imprisonment the life terms passed on six men convicted of acts of violence during the 1984 "bread riots" in which more than 100 people were killed. The amnesty did not affect the 90 fundamentalists sentenced last September for terrorism and anti-government activities.

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King to visit Cairo today

CAIRO (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein is due in Cairo on Sunday for talks with President Hosni Mubarak on Middle East developments and the Gulf war ahead of the superpower summit in Washington on Monday, official sources said. The two leaders would urge President Ronald Reagan and Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to help to explore ways to advance Middle East peace efforts, sources close to the Foreign Ministry said. King Hussein and President Mubarak meet regularly to coordinate foreign policy. King Hussein will also brief President Mubarak on his efforts to heal the rift between Iraq and Syria, the sources said. A reconciliation between Baghdad and Damascus is seen as a major step towards ending the seven-year Gulf war.

King visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Saturday visited the Army General Headquarters (GHQ) in Amman and met with Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces. The King passed to Field Marshal Sharif Zaid directives concerning the Armed Forces.

King sends good wishes to Finland and Thailand

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday sent cables of good wishes to Finnish President Mauno Koivisto and King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand congratulating them on the occasion of their countries' respective independence days. In his cables, the King wished the two leaders continuing good health and happiness and their respective peoples further progress and prosperity.

Finnish firm denies selling Soviet oil to Israel

HELSINKI (AP) — The Finnish oil company Neste on Saturday denied the state-owned firm had any plans to sell Soviet oil to Israel. "Neste is not involved in my oil deals with Israel," said Kai Hietarinta, Neste's manager of international deals. "Allegations that Neste would try to sell Soviet oil to Israel are totally unfounded," he said. Finland sends about one-fifth of its exports to the Soviet Union worth \$3 billion last year. Under a Carter agreement with the Soviets, Finland takes much of the payment in oil, some of which is traded to third countries for cash. Reports of negotiations for an Israeli-Soviet oil deal through Finland emerged after a private visit here by the Israeli energy minister, Moshe Shahal, earlier this week. Mr. Shahal met Foreign Trade Minister Ilkka Suominen, who also has denied a deal was in the works.

Group claims attacks in Kuwait

BEIRUT (R) — A previously-unknown group said on Saturday it carried out a series of attacks in Kuwait and would wage holy war to end U.S. and British influence in the Middle East. The Organisation for the Liberation of Kuwaiti Muslims (OLKM) said in a typewritten statement delivered to two international news agencies in west Beirut that the "zealous heart of Kuwait" would punish all foreign plotters. There was no way of judging its authenticity. The group claimed responsibility for all attacks in Kuwait since April 24. In particular, it said it set off a fire at a propane gas tank in the Ahmadi port complex on May 24. It also said it was responsible for an explosion at a ticket office for the Pan-American airline on Oct. 25 and a similar blast at American Life Insurance offices on Oct. 27.

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EC summit collapses without accord over agricultural subsidies

Unreleased political statements reaffirm support for Mideast conference and urge Gulf ceasefire

COPENHAGEN (Agencies) — The European Community (EC) summit collapsed in failure on Saturday but the leaders of the 12 states said they would meet again in February to try to stop the group's slide towards bankruptcy.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez told reporters: "The meeting has ended without agreement." He said the leaders would reconvene in Brussels on Feb. 11 and 12.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said: "There was no compromise possible right now but we have to come to a solid compromise in eight weeks."

The leaders had made a desperate attempt to avoid such an outcome, which they feared would unsettle world financial markets and expose European divisions on the eve of the U.S.-Soviet summit.

They finally abandoned their talks after a day of bickering over how to limit spending on agricultural subsidies, which swallow two thirds of the EC budget.

Earlier, some leaders acknowledged that failure of the summit also undermined Western Europe's influence just as the superpowers prepared for the historic Washington summit.

The lack of a budget freeze spending on EEC programmes, such as science and aid to poorer members, casts doubt on plans for a barrier-free, more united Europe by 1992.

Apparently conscious of not being taken seriously by other nations as they quarrelled over grocery prices, the West European leaders held up publication of joint declarations on international issues.

The three declarations were

cultural subsidies, which swallow two thirds of the EC budget.

Earlier, some leaders acknowledged that failure of the summit also undermined Western Europe's influence just as the superpowers prepared for the historic Washington summit.

The leaders welcomed next week's Washington summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and said a treaty to scrap intermediate-range nuclear missiles was a milestone.

The leaders reiterated well-known positions in favour of a Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices and backed calls for a ceasefire in the Gulf war.

They urged the Soviet Union to withdraw all its troops from Afghanistan during 1988 under a fixed timetable, agree to the establishment of a transitional government, and recognise that participation of Afghan guerrillas was essential for a comprehensive political settlement.

The meeting foundered over how to curb farm spending, raise more money and give more funds to the bloc's deprived regions.

Resistance fighters kill 3 SLA men near Jezzine

RASHAYA, Lebanon (Agencies) — Resistance fighters killed three Israeli-backed militiamen in an attack in South Lebanon on Saturday while losing at least two of their own men.

The Islamic Resistance Movement said its men assaulted a position of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia southeast of Jezzine and battled the militiamen in the Toumat Nihai hills for several hours with rockets, mortars and machineguns.

It said the SLA suffered "heavy human losses" while two of the fighters were killed.

The Islamic Resistance statement was broadcast by the Voice of Islam radio by Hezbollah. There was no way of judging its authenticity. The group claimed responsibility for all attacks in Kuwait since April 24. In particular, it said it set off a fire at a propane gas tank in the Ahmadi port complex on May 24. It also said it was responsible for an explosion at a ticket office for the Pan-American airline on Oct. 25 and a similar blast at American Life Insurance offices on Oct. 27.

U.S. urged restraint after glider attack

In another development, a Beirut newspaper reported Saturday that the United States urged Israel to avoid military escalation after a Palestinian hang-glider raid in which six soldiers were killed.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy told the Al Safir newspaper that Washington had urged "all parties concerned" in the attack "to practise self-control and avoid any military escalation."

Mr. Murphy, an assistant secretary of state who specialises in Middle East affairs, said Soviet support for an embargo was "imperative" and he expected it to be forthcoming.

He argued the "strong and clear language" used by Arab leaders at last month's summit conference in Amman "should convince the Soviet Union to take such an attitude."

Mr. Murphy discussed the issue

of the council's adopting an embargo resolution with Kuwaiti Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saud Al Osaimi in Washington last week.

Mr. Osaimi on Friday met his British counterpart David Melton in a bid to recruit British support for an embargo resolution.

The Arab summit resolutions on the Gulf war "should assist U.S. endeavours to convince the Soviet Union to revise its policy on this score during the superpower summit," Mr. Murphy was quoted as saying.

Mr. Murphy also stressed that the United States was "not out to for any special military gains or losses" in the Gulf region.

The role of the U.S. navy was to protect reflagged Kuwaiti tankers "and contribute to the region's stability," he affirmed.

Gromyko assails Iran, page 2

Murphy: Soviets will back arms embargo on Iran

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A senior United States official predicted the Soviet Union would support an arms embargo against Iran if it continued to flout ceasefire calls, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The United States now expects the Security Council to adopt a second resolution... imposing an arms embargo on Iran, "the daily Al Qabas quoted the official, Richard Murphy, as saying.

Mr. Murphy, an assistant secretary of state who specialises in Middle East affairs, said Soviet support for an embargo was "imperative" and he expected it to be forthcoming.

He argued the "strong and clear language" used by Arab leaders at last month's summit conference in Amman "should convince the Soviet Union to take such an attitude."

Mr. Murphy discussed the issue

Three-day conference on Food Security in Muslim World opens

AMMAN (I.T.) — A three-day symposium entitled Food Security in the Muslim World opened in Amman on Saturday with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan calling on participating countries to employ modern technology for better and more profitable exploitation of soil to ensure bumper crops and food security for their people.

In an address delivered on his behalf by Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan, Prince Hassan drew attention to the seriousness of population explosion and its consequences. He said the present rate of population growth had given rise to many fears, most important of which was

whether there would be enough land for food and at a reasonable cost for the future generations.

The main concern is for cultivable land, much of which is being lost to desert, salination, erosion and increasingly to waste pollution, Prince Hassan noted. He said amid this gloomy picture one should not overlook the great potential of the Muslim World in food production that could be tapped via exploiting the appropriate means to accommodate regional food insufficiencies.

Following are excerpts from the Crown Prince's speech:

"The issue you are tackling today is of prime importance as it penetrates to the heart of the

concept of survival. The striking phenomena that the 46 Muslim countries — with the exception of three countries (Malaysia, Turkey and Pakistan) — are short of food demonstrates the dimension of the problem. Not only that, but a number of Muslim countries are experiencing tragic conditions of famine and food shortages. It is really shocking to recall that the two major food famines in recent history in which millions of people died of starvation occurred in Muslim countries.

"The fact that the term "security" is used, indicates that food shortage is not only a problem of

(Continued on page 4)

Experts work on 'declaration of action' to solve food problems of Islamic states

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A high-powered body started a series of meetings here on Saturday to draft a "declaration of action" to address food insecurity in the Muslim World.

The "declaration of action," which will be submitted to the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), is expected to point out to the Islamic leaders the seriousness and complexities of the problem and will identify specific practical steps to solve the problem of food insecurity in the Islamic World as a

ronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, is intended by 75 scientists and decision-makers representing 22 countries and regional and international organisations for technological and science-related problems in the Muslim World.

The Islamic Academy of Sciences was established by the standing Islamic Ministerial Committee on Science and Technology earlier this year to function as "... a think-tank to provide practical solutions to the most important problems facing the Islamic countries."

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The three-day meeting, sponsored by the Islamic Academy of Sciences, and held under the pat-

thus making it a professional organisation of distinguished Muslim scientists fully dedicated to providing comprehensive solutions for technological and science-related problems in the Muslim World.

The Amman meeting is considered the first of a series to address a major problem confronting Muslim nations. The meeting, entitled "Food Security in the Muslim World," aims at outlining the major obstacles and identifying areas of cooperation among Muslim countries.

During Saturday's discussions, speakers stressed the need for integration among Islamic countries as the only means to reduce food insecurity. Several scientists

(Continued on page 4)

Reagan: INF pact is 'good bargain'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan on Saturday called the U.S.-Soviet treaty to eliminate medium-range missiles "a good bargain" for America and said the pact furthers the cause of world peace.

Mr. Reagan's statements at a Thursday news conference in New York show that "they have not yet accepted that resolution, and aren't prepared to," he added.

Asked why the Security Council has not moved on to draft a tougher resolution calling for an arms embargo, Redman replied, "well, essentially, the Soviets and Chinese say they're not ready to get to that stage yet."

Following his talks with Mr. Larijani, Mr. Perez de Cuellar expressed disappointment at Iran's position towards his efforts to end the Gulf war.

"I might be a little disappointed because I expected much more movement," Mr. Perez de Cuellar said in an interview with AP. It marked the first time he had voiced such feelings

(Continued on page 4).

Egypt calls on superpower summit to seek solutions to Mideast conflicts

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt urged U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Saturday to seek ways of resolving Middle East conflicts and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Osama Al Baz, chief political aide to President Hosni Mubarak, singled out the Iran-Iraq war, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan and the Lebanese civil war as the most pressing regional problems worthy of superpower attention at the summit opening in Washington on Friday.

Mr. Al Baz, who doubles as first under-secretary of the Foreign Ministry, told reporters that this outline summed up messages that Mr. Mubarak sent to Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev on Friday through their embassies in Cairo.

The superpowers should take decisive steps to end the Gulf war, Dr. Baz said.

Additionally, he said, the two leaders should decide how to remove obstacles, "particularly

Israeli intransigence," blocking the convening of an international conference under U.N. auspices to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

And he urged a Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan and establishment of a government acceptable to all parties there.

"Egypt believes the leaders of the two superpowers should not confine their interest (at the summit) to issues of disarmament," Dr. Baz said. "They should bear a special responsibility for contributing to the solution of regional problems."

Mr. Reagan has said he would ensure that regional issues are on the summit agenda.

Dr. Baz said Egypt views the Gulf war, now in its eighth year, as a "worsening, bleeding wound that threatens neighbouring countries." He cited Kuwait, which was a victim of several Iranian missile attacks in recent months.

"The two superpowers are called upon to take a more decisive position to end the Gulf war," he

(Continued on page 4)

Seoul said seeking custody of woman suspect in KAL disappearance mystery

BAHRAIN (AP) — South Korean officials were reported Saturday to have asked the Bahrain government for custody of a woman and the body of her dead male companion, suspected of involvement in the disappearance of a South Korean jetliner six days ago.

However, diplomatic sources here said the Bahrainis were refusing to release either of the Asians until their identities and nationalities were established.

The Information Ministry announced that the woman, judged by doctors to have recovered from poison she apparently swallowed in a suicide attempt, had been moved from a military hospital to an unspecified "safe place" while "undergoing investigation" by the authorities.

It said there was "full cooperation" between Bahrain and Japan and South Korean investigators, who arrived here in the past two days, hoping to

identify the mystery pair. The woman has refused to talk with diplomats from the two countries.

South Korean authorities denied that the fingerprints of the dead man had been found to be those of a fugitive wanted on other charges. An Asian diplomatic source here, asking not to be named, reported that the prints had been matched with the fugitive's, but gave no other details.

The officials in Seoul said the prints had been compared to a list of criminals and international guerrillas, but were not matched. They said the process was continuing.

Authorities in Seoul believe the couple may have planted a bomb aboard Korean Airline's (KAL) Flight 858 in a plot by pro-north Korea extremists to disrupt South Korea's Dec. 16 presidential elections and the 1988 Summer Olympics.

North Korea on Saturday disavowed any involvement. "The South Korean passenger plane

missing has nothing to do with us," it said in a statement carried by the official KCNA news agency and monitored in Tokyo.

Another consignment of

SPYCATCHER

Paris reportedly paid \$3m ransom to free 2 hostages

BEIRUT (R) — The Beirut Ash-Shiraa magazine has said that France bought the freedom of two French hostages released in Lebanon last week by paying a ransom of \$3 million and pledging to stop arms supplies to Iraq.

Asked in Paris to comment on Ash Shiraa's story, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman rejected the report, saying Prime Minister Jacques Chirac had already denied all reports that France had paid a ransom to free the two hostages.

"He said clearly there had been no ransom," she told Reuters.

The Beirut weekly, which first broke news of the U.S.-Iran arms-for-hostages deal last November, quoted what it referred to only as "sources" in its article made available ahead of publication.

It said a breakthrough in resolving the hostage crisis in Lebanon, where 24 foreigners are missing and believed kidnapped, was expected within a period not exceeding six months.

The pro-Syrian magazine said the deal which secured the release of French captives Jean-Louis Normandin and Roger Auge, "has many clauses and facets."

These, it said, went beyond the embassy war between Paris and Tehran and an outstanding loan of \$300 million France owes Iran.

"The deal involved aspects which concerned the direct kidnappers as well as others involved indirectly," Ash Shiraa said.

It added: "Concerning the kidnappers, it has been revealed that they received \$1.5 million for each of Normandin and Auge."

Normandin and Auge, 31, were freed in Syrian-controlled Muslim west Beirut last Friday by their pro-Iranian captors, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO).

Television crewman Norman

din, 35, and photographer Auge, 31, were freed in Syrian-controlled Muslim west Beirut last Friday by their pro-Iranian captors, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO).

Paris has said that its decision to allow Vahid Gordji, an interpreter at Iran's Paris embassy suspected of personal involvement in a wave of bombings in Paris last year, was not linked to the release of the Frenchmen.

In its report Ash Shiraa said: "France has pledged to stop providing Iraq with any new arms and this pledge came after the failure of an agreement between her (France) and Iran to provide the latter with arms and military hardware."

Before freeing Normandin and Auge the RJO said it had received assurances that France would meet demands for changes in its Middle East policy.

"The remaining hostages will be freed just as the previous hostages were and a solution for their problem will be found within a period of time not exceeding six months," Ash Shiraa said.

In Copenhagen, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher accepted an assurance from French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac on Friday that Paris paid no ransom to secure the release of two hostages by Iranian militants in Lebanon, if France had paid a ransom.

Kuwait sentences youths for subversion

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's state security court convicted two Kuwaiti teenagers on Saturday of distributing leaflets calling for the overthrow of the government.

The Kuwait News Agency KUNA said Abdul Aziz Abbas Al Shati, 18, was freed for four years at hard labour while Haidar Abdullah Ibn Nakhai, 17, was

sentenced in absentia to two years.

KUNA said they were found guilty of "distributing leaflets that included an incitement to overthrow the ruling system in the country and defy the authority of the emirate."

Nearly 40 Kuwaitis, most of

Mahdi reports no progress in talks with Haile Mariam

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi has said his talks with Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam were held in a frank and serious atmosphere.

But he did not report any progress in defusing tension between the two countries.

Speaking to reporters on his arrival from Kampala, where he held two rounds of talks with Mr. Haile Mariam, Mr. Mahdi said the two sides decided to set up a joint committee to look into bilateral problems.

He did not say when the committee would meet.

Mr. Mahdi said: "I cannot say more at this stage."

U.S. couple convicted in bid to break Libya trade embargo

SAN DIEGO, California (AP) — Two Americans have been found guilty of providing oil equipment to Libya in violation of a presidential embargo, authorities said.

A jury deliberated two days before returning the verdicts Friday against George Smith, 37, of Gretna, Louisiana, and Cheryl Smith, 37, of Gretna, Louisiana.

The Smiths, owners of the Louisiana-based Oil Patch Production Service Inc., were convicted of all 11 counts — five of illegal exports to Libya, five of making false statements and one

of conspiracy to defraud the United States.

Each faces a maximum prison term of 80 years and \$2.75-million fine. U.S. District Judge Rudi Brewster ordered the Smiths jailed pending a Jan. 19 sentencing hearing.

The Smiths were arrested in January, along with Scottish businessman Francis George Christie after a government operation revealed the three had violated the trade embargo by arranging an oil equipment shipment to Libya.

Sources close to the rescheduling negotiations said the debt agreement, reached in line with an accord between Egypt and the Paris Club of creditor nations in May, covered 870 million marks (\$524 million) in arrears and dues up to the end of June 1988.

The Paris Club deal provides for rescheduling about a quarter of Egypt's foreign debt of nearly \$40 billion, mostly owed to governments rather than commercial banks.

They said police chased and detained the smugglers on Tuesday after an exchange of fire in Egypt's eastern desert, about 90

kilometres east of the southern

city of Aswan.

Police were still looking for 35 men who escaped.

The goods, worth about one million pounds (\$450,000), included refrigerator motors, car

tyres, chicken cubes, black paper, shoes and imported cigarettes.

Imports of consumer goods are severely restricted in Sudan, one

Gromyko assails Iran over Gulf war

A French official told reporters Mrs. Thatcher apologised for articles in the British press condemning France for what they called a deal with terrorism.

Officials said Mr. Chirac approached Mrs. Thatcher over drinks before lunch at the European Community summit in Copenhagen and told her that British press reports that France had bought the release of the hostages were false.

"She fully accepted his assurances that there was no payment of ransom or sale of arms to secure the release of the hostages," a senior British official said, reading from a prepared statement.

Referring to information France gleaned from the hostages and the French seizure of a coaster loaded with arms apparently bound for Irish guerrillas, he added: "We very much appreciated the cooperation received over dealing with terrorism."

Mrs. Thatcher told parliament in London on Tuesday after France freed Gordji:

"The best defence against terrorism is to make sure you will never give in to their demands. That is, and will continue to be our policy."

Her statement, in reply to a denunciation of the French action by a senior member of her Conservative Party, was interpreted by the British press as an implicit criticism of Paris.

Articles and editorials said it would be more difficult to secure the release of British hostages in Lebanon, including Anglican church envoy Terry Waite, if France had paid a ransom.

They believed to be pro-Iranian militants, were arrested in January and charged with anti-state activities. Ten were later jailed for between six months and seven years.

Six Kuwaitis were sentenced to death in June for involvement in bombings at oil installations.

Nearly 40 Kuwaitis, most of

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet President Andrei Gromyko has accused Iran of doing little to stop its long, bloody war with Iraq, the TASS news agency reported.

The TASS account of Mr. Gromyko's meeting with Iranian Ambassador Naser Heirany Baru contained some of the Soviet Union's sharpest public criticism yet of either side in the war.

The Soviet Union is Iraq's main weapons supplier, but recently has been seeking to improve commercial and other relations with Iran's fundamentalist Islamic government.

"You as an ambassador and the Iranian leadership made a great number of statements about the wish to end the war," Mr. Gromyko said. "But the war goes on. Iran is practically not carrying the matters toward ending the war. Therefore the main questions remain unresolved."

"Blood is being spilled profusely. But the Soviet leadership holds that neither Iran nor Iraq would have to spare," Mr. Gromyko said.

"If Iran really stopped the war and embarked on a political settlement of disputes with Iraq nobody would assess this step as a defeat for Iran," Mr. Gromyko said.

"Any person would probably agree that the war cannot go on indefinitely, and that the later Iran arrives at the conclusion that it should be ended, the less favourable this will be for Iran," he said.

Soviet emissaries have visited both Iran and Iraq in recent months seeking an end to the seven years of fighting. The U.N. Security Council, which includes the Soviet Union, passed Resolution 598 this summer calling for an immediate end to the fighting.

TASS said the Iranian ambassador flew to Tehran and brought back a message from the Iranian leadership in which it calls for broader cooperation with the Soviet Union.

They were found guilty of "distributing leaflets that included an incitement to overthrow the ruling system in the country and defy the authority of the emirate."

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Home news

All health centres to have laboratories soon

MAFRAG (J.T.) — The Ministry of Health will soon install laboratories in all health centres throughout the Kingdom, in order to provide laboratory services for all citizens and relieve hospitals from part of their duty, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh announced here on Saturday.

Speaking during an inspection tour of the Mafraq region, Dr. Hamzeh encouraged all health centres to intensify their programmes for spreading awareness among the local communities and in schools.

The minister toured five health centres in Mafraq and the eastern badia region and met with officials and citizens concerned with health services in these areas.

During the tour, the minister laid the foundation stone for a comprehensive health centre in

the Sahaba region. The new centre will provide 24-hour medical services to citizens and travellers along the Amman-Baghdad route, where the new centre is located, the minister said.

Later, the minister laid the foundation stone for another health centre in the town of Sama Al Sarhan, which will offer mother and child care, dentistry and other essential services.

Dr. Hamzeh then opened Um Sarb health centre, which will offer medical care to badia residents, and announced that more health centres will be built in the region once plots of land were assigned for the projects.

The minister was accompanied on the tour by Mafraq Governor Fayed Abbadi and heads of local government departments.

Italy to assist Jordan in building vocational school

By a Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Italy on Saturday signed a five-year protocol for the establishment of a vocational school for graphic arts, to be located on the grounds of the Marka Polytechnic.

The agreement was signed on Jordan's behalf by Minister of Planning Dr. Taher Kanaan, and on the Italian side by Italian Ambassador to Jordan Dr. Luigi Amaduzzi.

The project, which is included in the 1986-1990 five-year plan, aims at meeting the increasing need of printing presses for skilled workers and technicians, with a view to upgrading efficiency and producing high-quality printed materials for the Jordanian and Arab markets.

It involves constructing and equipping a printing school to accommodate 360 students at the secondary vocational level and 240 students at the training centre level.

The school will be organised into the following sections: photocomposition, photoreproductions, photolithography, offset printing, binding, graphic design, technology workshop and maintenance.

While the Jordanian government has provided the land and built the required premises, the Italian contribution shall consist of: technical machinery and assistance, teaching publications, expertise and scholarships to 28 Jordanian instructors for training courses in Italy.

The project, which follows the creation of a training centre for electricians at the Zarga industrial school (completed in 1986), the realisation of a handicraft school in Salt and the establishment of a pilot quarry plant for the exploitation of limestone in Maan, is a further significant example of the Italian support to the promotion of vocational occupations in Jordan.

Fayed reported in very good condition after surgery

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Akef Al Fayed, who underwent a successful surgery at an American hospital recently, was reported to be in "very good condition" on Saturday.

According to Parliament's secretary-general, Mr. Hani Kheir, Mr. Fayed is expected to be discharged from a Houston, Texas hospital within a week.

Mr. Fayed, 66, was operated on this past Wednesday.

On Friday, His Majesty King

Hussein and His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, personal representative of the King, telephoned Mr. Fayed to inquire about the progress of his recovery. The King congratulated Mr. Fayed on the success of his operation and wished him a speedy recovery.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, a number of ministers, senators and deputies also telephoned Mr. Fayed and wished him a quick recovery.

Jordan to sell Egypt 75,000 tonnes of cement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to sell Egypt 75,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement, in accordance with a new agreement concluded in Cairo during a visit by the director-general of the Jordan Cement Factories Company (JCFC), Khalid Al Zaher.

Dr. Zaher, in statement upon his return here on Saturday, said that agreement was concluded

after four days of talks with Egyptian officials from the Al Naser Import-Export Company and the offices in charge of importing cement.

Last year, Jordan sold 650,000 tonnes of cement to Egypt and is expected to sell more quantities, in accordance with an earlier agreement which provided for the sale of a total of 75,000 tonnes.

IPA, World Bank discuss potential cooperation agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from the World Bank on Saturday visited the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) and discussed the signing of an agreement between the two sides.

The agreement would consider the IPA as a partner to the World Bank's Institute for Economic Development and as a regional centre for organising World Bank-sponsored seminars, conferences and studies in the countries of the Middle East.

The delegation examined the IPA's potentials and activities and, in particular, its research and training programmes. IPA Director Mr. Abdulla Ulayyan discussed with the delegation cooperation in implementing IPA plans in Jordan.

Agreement was reached during the talks on holding a World Bank-sponsored seminar on administrative training to be held in Amman next year.

Workshops on animal disease, veterinary vaccine open

AMMAN (Petra) — Two workshops on the implementation and evaluation of projects for combating animal diseases and the production of veterinary vaccines began here on Saturday. The workshops are organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and the West German development agency GTZ.

Deputising for Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud, the ministry's under-secretary, Salem Al Lawzi, spoke at the opening of the workshops, noting that the disease-combating project, cur-

rently being implemented in cooperation with the West German government, was the first of its kind in the Arab World. Dr. Lawzi said the project involves conducting a survey of epidemic animal diseases in Jordan, with the aim of designing a scientific plan for studying and combating these diseases.

He said that the veterinary vaccines project intends to meet the Kingdom's need for vaccines, which amounts to 100 million doses, in addition to producing 70 million doses for export.



Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother on Saturday is presented with a replica of the Holy

Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan and President of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Abdulla Al Khatib (Petra photo)

Seminar on human resources management opens with call for effective administration

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday stressed the need for a qualified administrative system that would help to achieve the objectives of development. "An effective administrative system plays a leading role in the life of a developing nation which seeks prosperity through development processes," Prince Hassan said in a speech read out on his behalf by Minister of Justice Riad Al Shakaat at the opening of a seminar on human resources management in Arab countries.

Prince Hassan said that political independence can best be maintained by enhancing the country's economic development, which includes human resources management. "The aim of social and economic development plans

should be raising the standard of living and improving the quality of life for the community and this can come about through developing human resources," the Crown Prince noted.

In the speech Prince Hassan referred to a royal commission for the development of civil service in Jordan and said that the commission has made provisions for ensuring improved and stable conditions for government employees, in order to encourage them to be more creative and efficient. The commission has also begun working out job descriptions clarifying the duties of government employees, Prince Hassan said.

The Crown Prince called on developing nations to give proper attention to human resources management, which is an essential factor in development, and which is one of the priorities in Jordan's current five-year plan.

Another speaker at the opening session of the five-day meeting was Dr. Hashem Al Dahabs, director of the Audit Bureau, who underlined the importance of human resources management in auditing and accountancy services.

Directors of audit bureaus and personnel services in Arab countries are taking part in the meetings, along with representatives from Austria and Canada.

The participants in the seminar will study subjects related to human resources management, personnel control and employment strategies for Arab organisations.

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He said that many recruits, including university students, have been given training in light arms and first aid and rescue operations in courses ranging from 21 days to four months.

The recruits also receive training in firefighting, civil defence guidance and medical aid for war victims, according to Maj.-Gen. Widyan.

Referring to obligatory military training programmes for the People's Army, Maj.-Gen. Widyan added. He said that programmes have been set so as not to adversely affect educational programmes.

Students will not be able to graduate from university without acquiring military training with the People's Army, Maj.-Gen. Widyan.

Referring to obligatory military training programmes for the People's Army, Maj.-Gen. Widyan said that male and female stu-

dents in secondary schools, community colleges and universities, from the age of 16, are required to participate in these programmes, as well as all members of the public up to the age of 55, for men, and 45, for women.

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Queen Mother laureated for role in promoting voluntary work in Kingdom

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Zein, the Queen Mother, on Saturday received the Golden Voluntary Work Shield and a model of the Holy Dome of the Rock from representatives of voluntary organisations in Jordan, in recognition of her major role in promoting voluntary work in the Kingdom.

The shield was presented by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, who spoke on the occasion, expressing the organisation's appreciation of the Queen's efforts in various fields of voluntary work.

ceremony at the Royal Cultural Centre honouring pioneers of the voluntary movement in Jordan.

The minister addressed the ceremony, conveying greetings from the King to the participants and to all voluntary workers throughout the country.

"Jordan is proud of its voluntary movement, which has been supported over the years by the King and the successive governments, working under his guidance as part of an all-out effort towards reconstruction and development," Mr. Haj Hassan said.

The meeting was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the chairperson of Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund.

The occasion reminds the Jordanian public of the efforts of the Queen Mother towards promoting the Jordanian women's movement that goes hand in hand with the general development in the country. The Queen Mother has contributed effectively and positively in stimulating social and humanitarian work by continuous support of charitable societies and her active participation in their work.

The Queen Mother chaired the first women's society in Jordan in 1944 and later led other societies offering humanitarian and voluntary services to the public.

The presentation of the shield to the Queen Mother at Zahran Palace was one of the main activities marking International Voluntary Day.

Mr. Haj Hassan later deputised for King Hussein in attending a

family."

The minister also paid tribute to the women's unions and their voluntary work. In addition, he voiced Jordan's appreciation to Arab countries which extend financial help to voluntary organisations operating in the Kingdom.

GUVS President Abdulla Al Khatib also spoke at the ceremony, describing voluntary and charitable work as a national duty and as part of the efforts towards building up the country.

Dr. Khatib reviewed GUVS activities, noting that the organisation has been financing the university education of 400 needy students, as well as providing JD 75,000 to the National Aid Fund, to be used for supporting poor families. GUVS also provided JD 300,000 to charitable and voluntary societies in the occupied West Bank to help alleviate the suffering of the Arabs living under Israeli rule. Dr. Khatib noted.

The ministry hopes to promote its cooperation with royal medals presented by Mr. Haj Hassan. They included: Mrs. Zuleikha Al Shaabi, Mrs. Samiha Al Majali, Mrs. Andalib Al Amad, Mrs. Salwa Shweihat, Mr. Abdulla Abul Atta, Mr. Harron Hijazi and Mr. Mohammad Al Rousan. Two of the honoured pioneers have passed away.

The minister later presented the GUVS shield to representatives of 26 Jordanian organisations that care for children and old people and provide other humanitarian services.

The celebration was part of Jordan's observance of International Voluntary Day. The celebrations will last for five days, covering all governorates, and will include seminars, public awareness campaigns and other activities.

Jordan Glass Industries Company makes remarkable recovery from near-collapse

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

the international market," Mr. Obeid said.

Local glass traders have hailed the quality of the company's tinted glass, saying it was of equal quality and standard to that which they had imported from international markets, in general, and from Belgium, in particular, Mr. Obeid added.

He explained that each square metre of tinted glass, if imported to Jordan, would cost almost JD 5, including shipping and customs charges. "We will be selling each square metre of tinted glass to the local retailers at JD 5," Mr. Obeid noted.

The addition of tinted glass to the company's other line of production — clear, white glass — will sharply drum up profits, considering that the production cost of tinted glass is only five per cent more than that of the white glass, while the market price of the new product exceeds that of white glass by between 100 to 150 per cent in both the local and international markets.

Prior to the unveiling of this new type of glass on Nov. 15, "we were sitting on a pin cushion. But since that date, our company has bypassed the most critical stages of its development," JGIC Chairman of the Board and Director-General Farhi Obeid told a press conference on Saturday.

The eight actors, including Mr. Sawalha who plays principally the wicked magician, are all well-known artists with extensive experience on television and stage. Munir Kadoumi plays the lead role of Alladin; Yousef Yousef takes the roles of the Wazir and Sharayan; and Rania Fahed plays the heroine, Princess Murjan.

Being both the author of the play and performing a major role in it presents some problems for Mr. Sawalha; but, on the whole, he has found it to be a "worthwhile experience." "Although I'm writing plays for the Amman Baccalaureate School (where Mr. Sawalha teaches part-time, in addition to acting as director of the Haya Arts Centre), I'm not a writer," Mr. Sawalha explained.

"I've never been able to sit. But the good thing about being an actor/writer is that you can change the lines, as is inevitably the case, yourself. Once I become an actor I am able to detach myself from the feeling of being a writer and, luckily, I am not

possessive about my lines, as many authors are. The only thing is that I might find myself more demanding of the other actors when I see the thought behind the lines not coming over as I envisaged."

"The music consists solely of percussion instruments — tabla, drums, woodblocks, cymbals and tambourine — played throughout the production, giving the element of simplicity and rawness that both Mrs. Batrouni and Mr. Sawalha were looking for. The music is extremely different and interesting, seeming like accented chants that develop out of the natural rhythm of the speech."

The company's actual production started in June 1984, ten years after it was set up on paper. The two kinds of glass are produced under franchise and supervision by the renowned Belgian company Glaverbe and its experts, who work closely with a team of technical consultants from the Polish company Polmexekop.

According to Mr. Obeid, losses incurred by the Maan-based company reached JD 500,000 in 1987, contrast with JD 1.5 million in 1986, thanks to a series of "austerity measures" and new management and production policies which were executed throughout the past two years.

The company's 1985 production stood at JD 2.5 million.

Moreover, the company's turbulent financial and administrative history dates back to 1984, when disagreements among the company's previous board of directors resulted in a deadlock which forced the Glaverbe to pull out from JGIC at the end of the experimental phase of production. Subsequently, the total production dropped down to 2.5 from 70 tonnes per day.

However, after the return of the Belgian company in 1986 and the assistance given by the Polish consultants, production increased

to 19 tonnes, and later 50 tonnes per day by the end of last year. The 1986 output incurred 60 tonnes per day.

Economic experts attribute the financial losses incurred by the company to the fact that the cost of production is fixed according to the plant's production capacity of 75 tonnes; rather than to its actual output.

The company operates its plant round the clock on a three-shift basis, employing about 225 workers, out of which are 32 Arab and foreign experts.

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The superpower summit's reach: How far?

WORLD attention is riveted on Washington, where Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is set to meet with President Ronald Reagan tomorrow. The centrepiece of their summit agenda will be the formal signing of the intermediate range nuclear forces (INF) treaty, designed to eliminate a whole category of land-based medium range and shorter range nuclear missiles from Europe.

Politically, the INF treaty will remain a landmark in contemporary arms control-disarmament history. Both Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev, who appear to believe in a world free of nuclear weapons in order to ensure peace and security, must be duly credited with displaying unprecedented political will in achieving a breakthrough in reducing the number of nuclear weapons in Europe. In doing so, despite misgivings and scepticism voiced by hardliners, the two did carry along the support of their respective allies in forging ahead with the negotiations. The INF treaty would mean the removal and destruction of the 108 U.S.-deployed Pershing-II missiles now in West Germany and the 224 cruise missiles in West Germany, Britain, Italy and Belgium, as well as the 441 Soviet SS-20s targeted on Europe, China and Japan.

Militarily, the INF treaty does not mean much. The Pershing-IIs, cruises and SS-20s are deadly, no doubt; but the deadliest missiles that threaten world security — numbering about 50,000 and with intercontinental range — exist in the superpower arsenals. Therefore, the INF treaty has not reduced the overkill capacity of the superpowers, nor has it effected any change in the doctrine of nuclear deterrence on which superpower relations have been based for so long. Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev have strongly hinted at reducing their strategic arsenals by a 50 per cent cut. As the INF is not the end of the road in arms control-disarmament negotiations, it is hoped that the summit will make real progress on the question of strategic arms reduction, as well as on other outstanding issues between the two countries. The Washington summit may spark evolution into a new era of superpower relations. There is need for *perestroika* (restructuring) of superpower relations — moving away from relations based on nuclear deterrence — in order to achieve the objective of global peace and security.

In addition to discussing superpower relations and the interests of their allies, the two leaders will also address important regional issues. There could be no doubt, as has often been stated by Mr. Reagan, that he will raise before Mr. Gorbachev the questions of human rights in the Soviet Union, the Soviet role in Nicaragua, its intervention in Afghanistan and its increasing influence in the Gulf. But, so far, Mr. Reagan has not said that he would confer with Mr. Gorbachev on the possibility of the resolution of the Middle East conflict through an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations. At the summit, not only Mr. Reagan has the right to pose questions, but an equal opportunity is there for Mr. Gorbachev, as well, to pose questions and elicit answers from Mr. Reagan. While the Soviet leader's views on the international conference and the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict are clearly known, it would be incumbent on him to persuade Mr. Reagan to see the conflict in its proper perspective and encourage him to accept the idea of an international conference.

The world at large will be waiting to see what the two leaders will accomplish at the summit, not only in matters related to their own interests, but also their contribution towards solving regional problems — on top of which come the festering Arab-Israeli conflict and the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Two against

THE United States and Israel have renewed their opposition to the idea of an international conference which was supported by the United Nations General Assembly. Countries of the European Community abstained from voting on the resolution for endorsing the conference idea except for Greece and Spain which supported it. The voting came as a challenge to the Arab will which emerged as a unified force at the Amman summit meeting. America's continued opposition to the conference idea is an open challenge to the Arab will, and Israel's continued intransigence means that the apparent disagreements between Shamir and Peres on the idea of the conference are nothing but a tactical ploy to win time. What draws our attention is the stand of the European Community countries which abstained from voting on the General Assembly's resolution. The community's stand emerged just a few days before the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Washington, and for us it seems to indicate to the Soviet Union that the Western alliance, grouping the U.S. and Europe precedes all other priorities for the Western countries and is more important than the Middle East conference. The Arab countries ought now to take a lesson from this development, and should be careful not to be carried away with empty hopes which they pin on the European nations. The Europeans have the right to reorganise their policies and their priorities in a manner that can best serve their national interests, but the Arabs also have the same right to do so and ought to reorganise their economic, trade and political priorities in a way that can serve their interests. Once the Arabs have shown the world that they adhere to their solidarity and that they cling hard to their interests in the same degree as the Europeans do, then other nations specially the Europeans would adopt more positive and realistic stands with regard to the Arab cause.

Sawi Al Shaab: Towards Arab integration

THE Arab World suffers from economic and developmental problems which include among other things lack of food security as witnessed in Sudan, and the ill-distribution of Arab capital for investment. Any economic integration within the Arab World offers a golden opportunity for the Arab manpower to build the Arab World instead of building other countries. In the light of these problems facing the Arab World we can say that the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee is helping to relieve the Arab World of some of its problems by seeking integration between two sister states, Egypt and Jordan. The committee's achievements so far should be considered an example for other Arab countries seeking integration and economic prosperity. Jordan and Egypt are in effect laying the cornerstone for a greater integration among Arab countries in all fields with the purpose of achieving further prosperity not only for the Jordanian and Egyptian peoples but also for the Arab Nation at large. We hope that the Jordanian-Egyptian experiment will be repeated by other Arab countries leading to an all out integration within the large Arab World.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Jordan and the EEC — an unbalanced relationship

The Jordan Times is pleased to resume the publication of Dr. Fahed Fanek's weekly column after an absence of 15 weeks. Dr. Fanek's Economic Pulse will appear on Sundays as had been the case before — the Editor.

THE ECONOMIC cooperation and integration between Jordan and the European Community was the subject of a two-day seminar held in Amman on Nov. 30, and Dec. 1, 1987. A number of Jordanian officials, academics, and businessmen took part in the proceedings together with trade experts from the European Community.

One cannot but notice that the use of the term "integration" in the title of the seminar was an overestimation of the scope and objective of the relationship. The relations between Jordan and the EC are far from integration and are neither the aim of Jordan nor that of the EC.

Trade cooperation between Jordan and the EC is conspicuously one-sided and out of all proportions to be acceptable or sustainable. The huge imbalance in the exchange of commodities could not continue unless Jordan is ready to overlook its legitimate right to a just and balanced trade relationship.

Jordan imports some 31 per cent of its overall imports from the EC, which in turn buys no more than 3 per cent of Jordan's total exports. Taking into account that the size of Jordan's imports is

four times that of the exports, one can easily conclude that the balance in absolute figures is tipped in favour of the EC at the unbelievable ratio of 40 to 1.

While Jordan complains that exports of commodities are slowing down due to lack of markets rather than lack of production, it is only strange that we go so far as importing from Europe 40 times as much as Europe imports from us. Such a state of affairs could only be seen as giving up our rights and submitting to an unfair relationship.

During the seminar, EC experts claimed and many Jordanian participants agreed, that the European market was extremely competitive, and that Jordanian exports to Europe do not only occur because a favourable trade agreement was concluded between Jordan and the community. The agreement is necessary, they say, but not sufficient. Jordanian exporters must see to it that markets are penetrated through effective marketing processes and tools, and that competitive products demanded by the community are produced and offered at the right time and place.

We are the first to admit that marketing expertise in Jordan is lacking, and that our procedures and institutions designated to penetrate overseas markets are found to be wanting, but all these deficiencies do not explain the out-of-proportion deficit in the balance of trade with Europe especially when we take into account the Jordanian production surpluses in vegetables, fruits, phos-

phates, potash, and fertilisers, which Europe can import to reduce the gap and establish an equitable and more balanced relationship that takes Jordanian interests into account.

There are substantial deficiencies in our trade agreement with the EC. Plenty of non-tariff barriers do exist to protect the European market and prevent Jordanian and other products from competing in EC markets. Fruits and vegetables are restricted to certain months of the year, stringent quarantine conditions must be complied with, ceilings are imposed on many commodities, and flows on the percentage of domestic contents of the products must be achieved which are either too high or too difficult to prove.

A frustrated Jordanian businessman told the seminar that the administrative and technical restrictions were too tough for the Jordanian producers and exporters to even consider selling in Europe.

Perhaps it is time to reopen our files and revise and improve the trade agreement between Jordan and the EC with a view to remove or reduce barriers and restrictions inhibiting Jordanian exports and secure a minimum level of balanced flow of trade. Otherwise Jordan will sooner or later find no alternative except to shift its trade, at least in part, to other more responsive and sensitive trade partners such as the East European countries or the Third World. Europe could not for ever take the Jordanian market for granted and dump its surpluses without accommodating Jordanian needs.

Talks open on food security

(Continued from page 1)

an internal dimension but more importantly of an external one.

"Indeed, food is successfully being used today as a weapon to achieve economic domination and political subservience of poor countries. In fact, Muslim countries produce only half of their food requirements and unfortunately this percentage is decreasing. Thirty Muslim countries are net importers of food with an annual bill of around \$25 billion. On the other hand, the food exports of 13 Muslim countries in 1986 totalled only around \$6 billion. This puts our countries among the biggest recipients of food aid in the world.

"On the global scene, the prevailing conditions are also equally alarming. According to estimates by UNICEF (1983), between 200 and 800 million people, mostly children, are undernourished and 13 million die of starvation annually. Although the present world potential of food production is sufficient to feed six billion people, better management of agriculture, food, and a balanced diet remain badly needed.

Experts work on declaration

(Continued from page 1)

argued that this integration could be achieved through identifying areas of mutual interest and cooperation, increasing agricultural trade among Islamic countries and focusing on import-substitute production strategies.

Speakers identified production and marketing problems of agricultural products, including insufficient funding — as in the case of poor Islamic states — inavailability of markets, trade barriers, heavy defence expenditures in some states, and finally the lack of technological know-how.

In this respect, participants emphasised the need for further cooperation among Islamic countries in terms of exchange of expertise, increase of capital flow, and investments by richer governments in the poorer ones and establishing a basis for preferential trade among OIC members.

Aziz heads for talks

(Continued from page 1)

The secretary-general did not blame Iran by name. But his comments, coming immediately after his talks with Mr. Larjani, were clearly directed at Tehran.

The Peruvian diplomat has been under pressure for nearly five months to get Iran and Iraq to carry out the U.N. Security Council's plan to end the war. Since beginning high-level talks with the two sides last summer he had refrained from characterising his mood.

Asked how the talks were going, he said he was obliged to press ahead.

"It is very difficult for me to feel frustrated because I have a mandate from the Security Council to continue," he said.

The United States believes time has run out and that the 15-nation council should enforce its Resolution 598 by imposing a worldwide arms embargo against Iran. The Soviet Union says this would be premature.

Deputy U.S. Ambassador Herbert Okun and his Soviet counterpart Roland M. Timerbrayev asked for the information for use in next week's summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev. The two leaders are scheduled to discuss the U.N. effort to end the Iran-Iraq war on Wednesday. Mr. Perez de Cuello said.

Iran, Israel and the illusion of hegemony

By Salameh B. Ne'matt

AMMAN — "The Iranians will attack an American target, maybe next year, during the U.S. presidential elections," former U.S. diplomat James Akins asserted during a lecture on the Gulf war delivered at the World Affairs Council.

"They know the Americans will react," he said, basing his analysis on well-placed sources and his intimate knowledge of the region. The Iranian move, he added, is well calculated to coincide with the build up for U.S. presidential elections to produce the desired effect.

Mr. Akins said the Iranians rightly estimate there would be a huge campaign in the U.S. against American involvement in the Gulf, with election year pressure on President Reagan who needs to work for a Republican victory, thus turning the confrontation into an Iranian political victory.

The sequence of events is not irrational," Mr. Akins told an audience of Jordanian diplomats and intellectuals at the World Affairs Council on Wednesday. He said he was able to convince Khomeini to end the war, was

"I disagree."

"The only way to end the war is by depriving Iran the money it needs to buy weapons and continue the war," he said, pointing specifically that the destruction of Kharg oil terminals would deprive the Iranians of bullets and food."

"I would say, give the Iraqis the missiles to destroy Kharg... utterly," he said. On prospects of the U.S. providing Iraq with the weapons needed for such a mission, Mr. Akins said arms to Iraq would be defeated in Congress, hinting that such weapons would have to come from somewhere else.

A speaker said that in some cases (Uganda for instance), Islamic governments lack the means of detecting radiated or polluted processed food coming from outside.

Speaking to the Jordan Times following his lecture, Mr. Akins said he was not positive the Iraqis do not have the necessary weapons to neutralise Kharg oil terminals. "Why aren't they doing it if they have them?" he asked, pointing out that heavy bombs were needed for such a mission and that the French-manufactured Exocet missiles, which Iraq has, were not adequate.

In his lecture, the former diplo-

mat said the Israeli role in the

Iran-Iraq war described the purpose

of the American naval presence

in the region as to escort U.S.

flagged ships. He said the reasons offered were "dangerously nebulous," but that the American media did not give the full truth to the American public.

"Israel, Turkey and Iran.

Mr. Akins said "it would be

interesting" to see what the

Israelis are going to do about the

Pakistani atomic bomb. He said Pakistan "has almost certainly exploded a nuclear device."

On Israel's hopes to divide Arab

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Dr. Ahmad Abbadi and Iraqi actress Me'ad Awad review the script before the shooting of a scene from the new TV series: Stories from the Bedouins.

New TV series features bedouins' judicial system

By Sana Atiyeh

Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — A television drama series on the bedouin judicial system has been filmed in the Muqawar desert — 50 kilometres east of Amman — for the first time in the Arab World.

Entitled "Stories from the Bedouins," this TV series is unlike the large number of other bedouin "soap operas" that have been made in Jordan.

According to the writer of the series, Ahmed Oweidi Al Abbadi, a Ph.D. in Jordanian Social Anthropology Affairs from Cambridge University in England, the bedouin shows that are televised are "not really bedouin series. They do not follow the specific qualifications and characteristics of the bedouin way of life."

Dr. Abbadi told the Jordan Times that bedouin TV shows should conform with bedouin mentality and history. "The customs and laws concerning bedouin speech and behaviour during the filming should be noted. For example, bedouins serve the coffee differently from what is normally shown on TV. There are specific ways to hold the cups and pot, the server's position, the notion of the hand, and so on," Dr. Abbadi explained.

He went on to say that the typical bedouin TV series do not portray well the bedouin's dialogue, accent, costumes, accessories, furniture, or the atmosphere as a whole. "For example, many of these shows have the characters without their headresses. Bedouin men and women must always have their heads covered; otherwise, it is considered shameful," Dr. Abbadi said.

He added that bedouin series must be written by experts in the field, not only for the bedouin.

Henry Ford Museum offers view of 'car kingdom'

By Richard Walker

Reuter

DEARBORN, Michigan — In the region that can justly be called the "kingdom of the car," the Henry Ford Museum had unveiled an exhibition depicting the enormous changes wrought by the automobile on 20th-century living.

Costing \$6 million, the show is the first major departure from the way the Ford Museum has presented itself since it was founded by the eccentric auto pioneering genius nearly six decades ago. More than one million people visit each year.

"Our display here hasn't changed much since Henry Ford employed the used car lot approach — putting a lot of artefacts out on the floor with a sign in them," says Harold Skramstad, president of the museum and adjacent Greenfield Village.

The Ford Museum is best known for its attachment to Greenfield Village, the first U.S. theme park with American history as its focus. The aim was to celebrate great inventors and a vision of America's pre-industrial roots — as seen through the eyes of the original Henry Ford.

But the new automobile exhibit is more than a mere celebration of the people and events that made Detroit the "motor city." The museum integrates vintage cars with the cultural icons and institutions that permanently changed America from a mostly rural nation of limited personal mobility in the 19th century to what it has become today — a society dependent on the automobile.

The Ford Museum also took an unusual approach by securing cooperation from major worldwide auto companies like Toyota, Honda, Daimler-Benz, Volkswagen and Mazda in addition to the Detroit-based companies.

Designed for permanent display, the 5,400 square metre exhibition incorporates the Ford Museum's renowned collection of classic cars with an incredible

audience, but also for "the interests of the media and non-bedouin viewers."

Dr. Abbadi, himself a Jordanian bedouin, considers himself an expert in bedouin customs and traditions. His Ph.D. covered the judicial process among the Jordanian tribes. He is the author of 17 books on Jordan, including one in English, entitled "Bedouin Justice in Jordan." He has also translated seven books on Jordan from English to Arabic.

"Stories from the Bedouins," whose filming ended recently, is what Dr. Abbadi called a "translation of my thesis." Each of the 13 episodes is independent, with a different story and issue. Each episode is a dramatised dispute, and the tribal judge solves the problem according to bedouin justice.

Supervising the dialogue, accent and costumes during the filming, Dr. Abbadi said that "Stories from the Bedouins" has already been marketed in most Arab countries.

The series is directed by Mohammad Barmawi, also a bedouin. It features a new Iraqi actress, and the rest of the actors and actresses are Jordanian bedouins.

This is not the first or last TV series that Dr. Abbadi has written. The first televised bedouin series in 1975, "Wadha and Ibn Ajlan," was written by him, and it was televised all over the Arab World except Egypt. He has also written "Desert Hawks."

Dr. Abbadi is also preparing for two bedouin series. "Talks," scheduled for filming in the beginning of the new year. Another project is "Tour of Jordan," which will be a joint Jordan-West German production, and is to be translated into English, French and Italian.

By John Noble Wilford

PALEONTOLOGISTS ponder their fossils, archaeologists turn over ancient stones, and now scholars of linguistics are joining the search for human origins with a systematic analysis of the roots of the world's known languages.

They are seeking ultimately to reconstruct the primordial language, the mother tongue of all humans.

"Ultimately, all languages,

with perhaps some little exceptions, are related," Dr. Shevoroshkin said.

The search for such relationships is potentially valuable to the study of human origins by anthropologists, paleontologists and archaeologists. Finding linguistic similarities back through time could buttress other research on the human migrations from Africa to the Middle East and then throughout the world. Ancestral vocabularies could provide clues to the tools early people used, the animals they domesticated and their means of survival.

Winfred P. Lehmann, a retired professor of linguistics and Germanic languages at the University of Texas at Austin, said: "We can learn more about prehistory through language, possibly where civilization actually developed. Words give us a notion of what people were talking about, and thus something about their culture."

Like many linguistic scholars, Dr. Lehmann is sceptical of some of the conclusions reached by the "Nostratic School," as the seekers of the earliest protolanguages are called. This research was pioneered in the 1960s in the Soviet Union, where most of the work is still done. Dr. Shevoroshkin, the leading exponent in this country, emigrated to the United States 13 years ago.

The Nostratic scholars are "very ingenious and very capable," Dr. Lehmann said. "You have to respect the idea that all the languages were related 25,000 years ago. But the grounds for their conclusions are not always convincing. If you go back a few thousand years, comparing words and languages, pretty soon you have so few related words left that you have nothing to compare."

For this reason, linguists have generally despaired of ever tracing the lineage of languages back beyond about 5,000 B.C., and are dubious of the new attempts to do so.

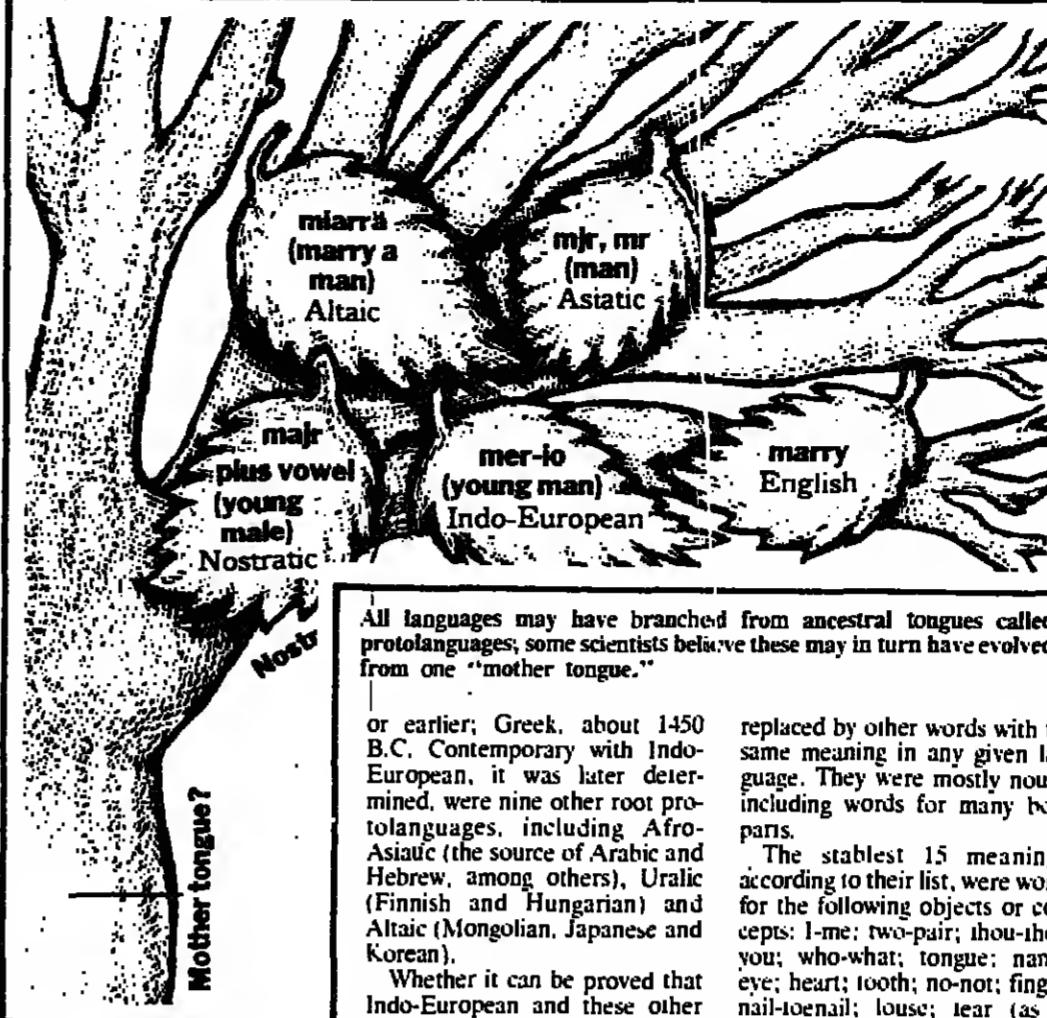
Relationships of modern languages are usually apparent. Similarities among Italian, Spanish

ish, Portuguese, French and Rumanian betray their Latin origin. English is a member of the Germanic family, and even the timing and circumstance of its origin are well documented: Anglo-Saxons speaking an Old German invaded the British Isles in the fifth century and, living in isolation, evolved their separate but related language.

Scholars in the 19th century made the first leap back in hypothetical ancestral languages.

By comparing archaic words of modern languages and analysing internal vowel changes and common word endings, they established the probable common root of Latin, Greek, Sanskrit, Germanic, Celtic, Balto-Slavic and Indo-Iranian. Called Indo-European, its daughter languages constitute today's most widely spoken linguistic family.

For a few thousand years after 5000 B.C., Indo-European was probably spoken in parts of the Caspian and Black seas. Sanskrit evolved from it about 1500 B.C.



All languages may have branched from ancestral tongues called protolanguages; some scientists believe these may in turn have evolved from one "mother tongue."

or earlier; Greek, about 1450 B.C. Contemporary with Indo-European, it was later determined, were nine other root protolanguages, including Afro-Asiatic (the source of Arabic and Hebrew, among others), Uralic (Finnish and Hungarian) and Altaic (Mongolian, Japanese and Korean).

Whether it can be proved that Indo-European and these other protolanguages were related, through a common tongue back in time, is a matter of dispute among linguists, except for disciples of the Nostratic School.

In 1963, two Soviet linguists, Vladislav M. Illich-Svitych and Aaron Dolgopolsky, independently arrived at some words that they said were probably in the vocabulary of the common ancestral language about 12,000 years ago. The Nostratic dictionary has now been expanded to more than 500 words.

Dr. Shevoroshkin, who was a colleague of Dr. Dolgopolsky before they left the Soviet Union, said the reconstruction of such an ancestral language began by trying to find in each descendant language words and phonetic patterns that were the most archaic, and hence probably from an earlier language. An important step to this analysis was determining the most stable words through time, which Dr. Dolgopolsky did after examining 140 languages of Europe and Asia.

These words represent meanings that are seldom or never

replaced by other words with the same meaning in any given language. They were mostly nouns, including words for many body parts.

The stables 15 meanings, according to their list, were words for the following objects or concepts: 1-me; two-pair; thou-she-you; who-what; tongue; name; eye; heart; tooth; no-not; finger-nail-toenail; louse; tear (as in weeping); water; and dead.

By studying words with these meanings in many languages, and then expanding the list, the scholars began to see similarities in the use of vowels and consonants and general patterns for shifts in the typical sounds that make up words.

In this way, Soviet scholars established that Nostratic for "I" was "mi" and for "me" was "mi-n" — the upper-case 'M' denoting a vowel whose sound is undetermined. In Indo-European, it was "me" and "mene," and similar words have survived in modern languages.

The Nostratic "kuni," for wife or woman, becomes in Altaic "kuni," in Afro-Asiatic "KwVn" (the upper-case 'K' symbolises a glottal sound) and in Indo-European "gwen." The Indo-European word survived into Middle English and is the root of the English "queen."

Dr. Shevoroshkin complains that out of ignorance and skepticism scholars in the United States are discouraged from pursuing Nostratic techniques for recon-

structing protolanguages. His applications for research grants have been repeatedly rejected. When he taught at Yale University, before joining the Michigan faculty, he said he was told "not to discuss Nostratic theory in my classes."

Soviet linguists continue the research, however, and have reconstructed another protolanguage that was probably contemporary to Nostratic: Dene-Caucasian, the mother tongue of Chinese, among other Asian languages. One of its offshoots is believed to be the Na-Dene family of languages, whose speakers were among the first migrants to America.

Joseph Greenberg, a retired professor of linguistics at Stanford University, has applied similar analytical techniques to try to demonstrate that all the languages of the native Americans stemmed from three protolanguages. Besides Na-Dene, he says, there was Eskimo-Aleut, which derived from Nostratic and is therefore closer to the tongue of America's eventual conquerors, and an independent grouping that Greenberg calls Amerind.

According to Dr. Greenberg and his colleague, Merritt Ruhlen, the fact that the Amerind family of languages is more widely scattered in both North and South America indicates that these were probably the first migrants to the New World.

In a recent article in *Natural History* magazine, Dr. Ruhlen, the author of "A Guide to the World's Languages," wrote: "There is strong evidence for three migrations in that each of the three New World families appears to be more closely related to language families in the Old World than to either of the other two New World families."

Visitors to Dr. Shevoroshkin's office in Ann Arbor, Michigan, are handed a poem written in Nostratic that conveys the sense of promise felt by those who search for protolanguages, as well as recognition of the controversy surrounding their efforts. Roughly translated, the poem reads:

Language — ford through river of time.

It leads us to the dwelling of dead.

But those cannot arrive there,

Who are afraid of deep water — The New York Times.

University professor warns of looming ecological disaster

By Jeremy Lovell

Reuter

ROTTERDAM — One-third of the world's plant and animal species is in imminent danger of extinction unless action is taken now, according to Norman Myers, visiting professor at Utrecht University in The Netherlands.

The display focuses on such themes as the move of business to the roadside, the way the car developed into a vehicle for owners' self-expression, the use of camping vehicles and sports cars and advertising and promotion.

Myers, 53, has just been installed as the first visiting professor

lands.

"The world is losing roughly three animal and insect species a day and one plant species a week, but evolution is likely to give back only about one plant and animal species a year," he told Reuters.

Myers, 53, has just been installed as the first visiting professor

of international nature conservation at the university. The new chair is funded by the Prince Bernhard Birthday Association, a charitable trust founded by the husband of former Queen Juliana.

"We are into the opening phase of a period of mass extinction of species as habitats are

destroyed and pesticide use booms throughout the world," Myers said.

Myers said he had arrived at his estimate of the scale of the threat to plant and animal species, and the rate of loss, by extrapolating from reports of disappearances of species all over the world.

He added that roughly half of

his estimated daily loss of animal species was insects.

He said the worst of the problem was in the poorer tropical and sub-tropical developing countries, but the richer developed countries were actively contributing to mass destruction.

"In Brazil whole tracts of irre-

placeable tropical rain forest are

being torn down every day to make way for cattle ranches to supply cheap beef for hamburgers," Myers added.

"In Thailand, too, demand from the European Community for manioc (a tuber crop) for cheap cattle feed is encouraging local farmers to rip out natural flora and fauna habitats."

Third World disease thrives alongside heart transplant hospital

By Ruth Pitchford

Reuter

CAPE TOWN — Just kilometres from the South African hospital which pioneered heart transplants, doctors are fighting to stop black babies dying from gastro-enteritis and adults from tuberculosis.

"We have an epidemic of tuberculosis (TB) in the Western Cape (province)," said Doctor Margaret Hoffman, of the medical school at Groote Schuur. "Until we've conquered that we shouldn't even be thinking about heart transplants."

The name of Groote Schuur, the teaching hospital of Cape Town University, became synonymous with the ultimate in first world health care when surgeon Christian Barnard made medical history there in 1967 by performing the first human heart transplant.

But South Africa's townships and shanty towns, including Cape Town's, remain plagued by Third World diseases.

One black baby in 10 survives less than 12 months, medical researchers estimate. The killer is usually gastro-enteritis or measles, assisted by dirty drinking water, lack of food and overcrowding.

Among adults, TB is spreading. Some 60,000 new cases are reported a year and doctors fear many more go unnoticed.

Gastro-enteritis can be treated with a simple salt and sugar solution to help babies retain water. It costs a few cents to immunise a child against measles. TB takes longer to treat but the drugs cost just 150 rand (\$75) per patient.

The heart transplants still carried out at Groote Schuur are

paid for by private medical insurance schemes, to which most white South Africans subscribe, and from state funds spent on some of the world's finest hospitals.

The government also funds free treatment of TB and other infectious diseases and subsidises some township clinics.

But Jack Kloppen, professor of community health at the Cape Town Medical School, believes South Africa needs a national health service operating through a network of clinics offering basic advice and treatment, not high technology surgery.

He knows his argument is hard to put over to the public. "Heart transplants are dramatic and attract money and attention," he told Reuters. "Tuberculosis is the disease of the masses. Treating it is not glamorous."

Like many doctors, Kloppen is critical of the fragmentation of health care under apartheid race segregation.

The 10 townships set aside for blacks each have their own health ministry. So do South Africa's white, mixed-race, coloured and Indian people. The 14th, a ministry of national health, masters-minds policy and black health care outside the townships.

But researchers estimate that in the nominally independent bantustan, excluded from the official statistics, some 190 babies in every 1,000 die within a year of birth.

Black patients who make the journey to the cities do get relatively subsidised treatment at prestigious hospitals like Baragwanath, serving Johannesburg's black Soweto city.

Its surgeons have just launched a highly sophisticated operation to separate Siamese twins, helped by foreign funds.

When Mankind can build the pyramids in Egypt and the Great Wall of China and land on the Moon then why can't we stop children from dying needlessly

We can. You can, too! By supporting Unicef, help us to do more. Unicef is dedicated to one single task: helping the children of the world. And we do this by going beyond emergency relief to long-term development. We believe a child can only realize its potential if its whole environment is designed to protect, support, educate and prepare for the long term. That is why Unicef helps a child to go to school, to have access to clean water and sanitation, to have a safe place to live, to have a healthy diet, to have a future. We believe a child can only realize its potential if its whole environment is designed to protect, support, educate and prepare for the long term. That is why Unicef helps a child to go

Kenya takes Africa Cup ending 12-year dominance by the north

The winners receive Nelson Mandela Cup from President Daniel Arap Moi

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Kenya's Gor Mahia on Saturday ended a 12-year dominance by north and west African teams in the Africa Cup Winners' Cup soccer tournament when it took the championship with a 1-1 tie against Esperance of Tunisia.

The teams had tied, 2-2, two weeks ago in Tunis. But since away goals count double in the case of a tie, Kenya wound up with a 5-4 advantage.

"It was a bit dirty, a difficult game as finals usually are," said Gor's Danish coach Jack Johnson. "All the same, the result is satisfying for the hard work the boys have put in."

Esperance's coach, Anton Piekniczek of Poland, refused to talk with reporters immediately after the match. But the team physician, Ghali Jellal, com-

plained of rough play by the Kenyans and of poor officiating by international referee Alex Hippo of Cameroon.

An overflow crowd in the 60,000-seat stadium at the Moi International Sports Complex went wild with jubilation as Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi presented Gor Captain Austin Odutu the tournament trophy, the Nelson Mandela Cup. The trophy was renamed this year to honour the jailed South African nationalist.

Gor Mahia is the first East

African team to win the Africa Cup Winners' Cup Championship, one of Africa's most prestigious soccer titles.

The continent-wide competition began in 1975.

Saturday's penalty-filled match was rough and tumble from the start.

Esperance left fullback Dan Majid was sent off early in the match after he hit Gor Mahia's Anthony Ndolo, the Tunisians' second offence of the match. Two Tunisian players and two Kenyans were shown yellow cards.

Gor Mahia centre-forward Peter Dapo, one of the players drawing a yellow card, stormed back immediately after the warning to score the game's first goal. It came on a header in the 21st minute after a corner kick by Gor

Midfielder George Oyango. Kenya's defence controlled the game for the rest of the first half and halfway into the second 45 minutes.

Esperance's defence also stiffened as goalkeeper Nasur Choucane kept picking off shots by Gor.

Then, in the 74th minute Esperance got a corner shot which Gor defenders intercepted, but mishandled. In the scramble for the ball, Esperance's inside left Taras Dhiab slipped through and scored the equalizer.

Gor Mahia reached the final in 1979 but wound up second best to Canon Sportif of Cameroun.

Esperance reached the quarter-finals in 1983 but lost to an Ivory Coast club.

Swiss woman wins Val d'Isere downhill

VAL D'ISERE, France (AP) —

Chantal Bournissen of Switzerland scored her first World Cup ski victory Saturday, taking advantage of changing weather to lead a bevy of unknowns to the high placings in the downhill race.

Bournissen, a 20-year-old in her second year on the team, was just the 36th starter but finished the race in 1 minute, 22.64 seconds, faster by a tenth of a second than second-place Mariana Kiehl of West Germany.

Another West German, Ulrike Stangassinger, came in third with 1:22.94 despite starting 50th of 61 competitors.

"The sun rose just as the usually less-dangerous competitors were starting," said Zoe Haas of Switzerland, who was third on Friday but only 16th on Saturday. "It melted the snow and that made the glide faster."

Italy routes Portugal in European qualifier

MILAN, Italy (R) — Two goals in the dying minutes lifted Italy to a satisfying 3-0 victory against a depleted but dangerous Portugal on Saturday in a European Soccer Championship Group II qualifier.

Italy, the 1982 world champions, had already qualified for the European finals as group winners but Saturday's two points put the icing on the cake by assuring them one of the two number two seedings.

Striker Gianluca Viali sparked the Italians, powering home the first goal after eight minutes from the edge of the area and setting up the third one minute from time when he laid on a perfect pass for substitute Luigi Di Agostini.

Giuseppe Giannini had made it 2-0 in the 88th minute when he ran clear onto a lobbed pass and hammered the ball into the top of the net.

Portugal, with nothing to play for but the honour, were depleted by the absence of injured star striker Paolo Futre and seven Porto players released from the squad to prepare for the World Club Championship match against Penarol of Uruguay on

Dec. 13.

But the scratch team matched Italy's chance-for-chance in the drizzle of Milan's San Siro Stadium and only an absence of luck and the acrobatics of goalkeeper Walter Zenga kept them from scoring.

"We played an extremely able and difficult side on an impossible pitch," Italian coach Azeglio Vicini said afterwards.

"But we put on a great show at the start and finish and I'm happy it was the youngsters who scored. It will give them the confidence and authority they need."

Three previously uncapped players were in Portugal's opening line-up and it was two of them, Gilberto and Hernani, who came closest to scoring.

The Italian team included Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Giovanni Francini, Franco Baresi, Riccardo Ferri, Salvatore Bagni (Luigi Di Agostini 62nd min), Roberto Donadoni, Fernando de Napoli, Alessandro Altobelli (Roberto Mancini 68th), Giuseppe Giannini, Gianluca Viali.

From Portugal, there were Jesus (Lucio 68th), Joao Costeada, Miguel, Frederico, Dito, Antonio Carvalho, Hernani, Nascimento (Carlos Parente 55th), Joe Coelho, Adao, Gilherio.

Ibn Sulayem clinches Mideast Championship

The UAE champ drives his Toyota to victory in the Dubai International Rally

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Dubai's Mohammad Ibn Sulayem won the Dubai International Rally Friday after leading from the start and clinched the Middle East Championship.

It was his second successive win. His overall time in the two-day, 500-mile (800-kilometre) rally was 3:24.10.

Sulayem and his navigator, John Spiller of Britain, crossed the line in their Toyota Celica 35.01 minutes ahead of West Germans Reinhard Hainbach and Ricken Erhard.

The winners, driving together for the first time, also took the driver's championship, navigator's title and manufacturer's crown.

Sulayem's win Friday gave him 134 points in the Middle East

Championship. Earlier championship events were run in Oman, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait and Lebanon.

Nabil Karam of Jordan secured the 12th position in his Opel Monta.

Karam and his navigator Ziad Hamzeh had kicked off to a promising start but failed to reach advanced slots due to technical failures in the second day of the rally.

Qatar's Saeed Al-Hajri, Sulayem's arch-rival, was second with 100 points, even though he fell out of the Dubai event and was not placed.

The veteran spiller announced his retirement soon after Friday's triumph.

"It's a career decision," he said. "It's been fun driving with

the champion, and but for better prospects back home, I might still be in."

Sulayem noted: "It's said, I've gained quite a lot from him. But it's his decision."

"I only knew about it just before the start of the rally, but we carried on to carry off the titles in style."

Two-time West German champions Hainbach and Erhard, driving an Opel Manta, were happy with second place in 3:59.11.

Lebanon's Tony Georgiou and Britain's Tom Steel in a privately entered Nissan 240 R.S. were third, the same position they took last year, in 4:04.46.

Alan Skennerton, a Dubai-based Briton, was fourth in a Range Rover with 4:05.20.

Kafoor M. Kadifor of Dubai,

also in a Range Rover, placed fifth on 4:08.42, and countryman Ali Saif Homaidan was sixth in a Land Rover with 4:13.29.

The all-women crew of Anise Risely and Helen Whitaker, both Dubai-based Britons, finished 14th in a Mitsubishi Pajero.

Only 15 cars finished out of the 47 starters in the gruelling race run through Dubai's Hatta mountains and later the sandy flats of Jebel Ali.

Twenty-one cars completed the first leg on the twisting Hatta roads.

Lebanon's Michel Saleh was Blair barely misses setting record

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Bonnie Blair of the United States barely missed a new world record in the 500 metres Friday during the first World Cup speed-skating race ever held in the new Olympic oval. Blair was timed in 39.44 seconds, .01 behind her own world record of 39.43.

After that, Lasse Lampi and Pentti Kuikkala of Finland faded in the 17th stage of the first leg, leaving the way clear for Sulayem.

"I knew it was in the bag after I completed the first leg, so I took it easy," the champion said.

"But the home advantage was also there. Basically, I had a strong car and a good co-driver and with a little hit from me it all ended nicely," he said.

With Liverpool not playing their home match against Chelsea until Sunday the rest of the pack in England had a good chance to close the gap, but only Arsenal and Manchester United were able to take full advantage.

United, back from an eventual trip to Bermuda, won 2-0 at third-placed Queen's Park Rangers, but Nottingham Forest could only draw 1-1 at Wimbledon and champions Everton were held to a goalless draw at bottom club Charlton.

The Arsenal faithful, who just over two weeks ago were basking in the glory of 14 successive victories, must have feared the worst when an improving Wednesday side led 1-0 at halftime thanks to a 31st minute goal by Colin West.

To make matters worse Michael Thomas had missed a 26th minute penalty for Arsenal. But the home side stormed back with second-half goals from Kevin Richardson (58th), Perry Groves (66th) and substitute Paul Merson (73rd).

Manchester United included their new signing from Glasgow Rangers Mark Falco but it was not hard to see Peter Davenport (35th) and Bryan Robson (74th) who clinched the points.

United had enjoyed the sunshine in Bermuda but not the publicity surrounding Welsh international defender Clayton Blackmore, accused and then cleared of rape.

Blackmore found himself away from the limelight on the substitutes' bench on Saturday and was not needed. United coped admirably with the ailing challenge of the one-time leaders.

The victory kept them firmly in fifth place, but 11 points behind Liverpool.

"I'll take the drug test any time, and not just now, as long as I'm in the league."

Olaoluwa said it's important to him to squelch rumours circulating in the National Basketball Association (NBA) that he is using drugs.

Offering to put up at least \$50,000 to prove it.

"If anyone thinks I'm on drugs, bring \$1,000 and put it down, and I'll put \$50,000, 100,000 up front," Olaoluwa said Thursday night after practice. "I'll take a drug test, and if I fail, they can get the \$50,000. If I'm right, they can donate the \$1 thousand to a drug centre."

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Cocoa price talks collapse

LONDON (AP) — Talks among cocoa producing and consuming countries aimed at reviving international intervention buying to support depressed prices collapsed Saturday.

The consumers' West German spokesman Peter Baron said the two sides agreed to meet again on Feb. 29 for a new attempt to resolve their differences.

Saturday's breakdown is likely to affect prices — already near a five-year low — when trading resumes on the London and New York markets on Monday, traders and delegates said.

"It means the chance of a safety net has been taken away, so the present surplus could well bring prices lower," said a leading Dutch trader. Producer delegates said their countries' economies, which are already strapped for cash, could be further damaged.

The 37-nation International Cocoa Organisation, which has powers under international treaty to support prices through intervention buying of commercially unwanted cocoa with buffer stock, reached an impasse after more than five days of talks.

The aim of the meeting was to negotiate measures to revive support buying operations. These have been paralysed since mid-June because of the failure of producers and consumers to agree on the minimum price to be defended at two previous meetings in London in July and September.

The organisation's 27 consumers have made a cut in the old support price of 1,600 Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) per tonne a precondition for lifting the suspension on intervention buying.

Producer spokesman Moma Mohammad of Ghana said arrears were a matter of concern.

American Life Insurance Company shows outstanding growth record

AMMAN (Agencies) — A report released recently by Standard Analytical Service, Inc., an independent analyst of the insurance industry since 1932, indicates that over the past five years ALICO's assets increased by 182.3%, policy reserves by 248.9%, insurance in force by 233.2%, net investment income by 170.2%, premium income by 202.2% and total income by 199.2%.

The American Life Insurance Company (ALICO) has a tremendously wide margin of assets over liabilities compared with the average 25 largest life insurance companies in the United States (over six times). This is, of course, a significant safety factor which confirms ALICO's financial soundness and ability to meet its obligations. This excellence also applies to surplus funds. ALICO's high surplus ratio indicates the company's ability to take emergencies in stride.

Commenting on this report, Mr. Ahhas Khalaf, ALICO's senior vice president and director, said that "ALICO Middle East regional results and growth pattern paralleled those of the

overall organisation. This was achieved despite the slowdown in economies of several countries within the region. Nevertheless, ALICO's unyielding commitment for developing the Middle East market helped to offset these economic hindrances."

ALICO is the largest international life insurance company in the world with nearly \$40 billion of insurance in force. For more than 60 years, ALICO has provided individual and group protection to approximately two million policyholders in 64 countries and territories. ALICO markets a diverse and broad range of income insurance products, which include health and hospitalisation, group insurance for large and small organisations and businesses, pensions, annuities, and traditional income insurance.

ALICO is a member company of the American International Group, Inc. (AIG), a global holding company employing more than 28,000 people in 130 countries. AIG maintains a solid financial stature with assets in excess of \$24 billion and a total life insurance in force in excess of \$94 billion.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Nov. 28, '87 and ending Wednesday, Dec. 2, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars.)

| Name of company | Number of shares | Volume of trade | Opening price | Closing price | Par value |
|---|------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Banking and financial institutions | | | | | |
| Industrial Development Bank | 94750 | 202834 | 2.120 | 2.150 | 1.000 |
| Petra Bank | 201 | 580 | 1.840 | 1.900 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Islamic Bank | 3195 | 5347 | 1.650 | 1.680 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Kuwait Bank | 1100 | 1380 | 1.270 | 1.250 | 1.000 |
| Housing Bank | 400 | 664 | 1.670 | 1.660 | 1.000 |
| Arab Jordan Investment Bank | 278 | 5547 | 20.000 | 20.800 | 5.000 |
| Cairo Amman Bank | 4459 | 75490 | 16.900 | 16.850 | 5.000 |
| Bank of Jordan | 880 | 82475 | 120.000 | 125.000 | 10.000 |
| Arab Bank | 430 | 1099 | 2.540 | 2.560 | 1.000 |
| Jordan National Bank | 1225 | 1348 | 1.100 | 1.100 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Finance House for Development | 21901 | 28045 | 1.780 | 1.790 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation | 6630 | 4354 | 0.640 | 0.650 | 1.000 |
| National Financial Investments | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| National Portfolio Securities | 130606 | 97160 | 0.711 | 0.740 | 1.000 |
| Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan) | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Real Estate Financing Corporation | — | — | — | — | 2.000 |
| Al Moshrek Exchange | — | — | — | — | 10.000 |
| Insurance and reinsurance | | | | | |
| Jordan French Insurance | 5485 | 37311 | 7.000 | 6.650 | 1.000 |
| REFCO Life Insurance | 6512 | 2866 | 1.100 | 1.170 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Insurance | 2360 | 32678 | 13.900 | 13.900 | 1.000 |
| Arab Life and Accident Insurance | 300 | 282 | 0.940 | 0.940 | 1.000 |
| Yarmout Insurance and Reinsurance | 110 | 115 | 1.150 | 1.150 | 1.000 |
| Holy Land Insurance | 8628 | 5876 | 0.640 | 0.691 | 1.000 |
| Philadelphia Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Union International Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jerusalem Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan-Gulf Insurance | 24585 | 24991 | 0.920 | 0.970 | 1.000 |
| Universal Insurance | 310 | 944 | 1.920 | 1.850 | 1.000 |
| General Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Eagle Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Middle East Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Al-Izidhar Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| National Ahliy Insurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Services and industries | | | | | |
| General Investments | 200 | 290 | 1.300 | 1.500 | 1.000 |
| Imra for Investment and Financial Facilities | 3568 | 2238 | 0.650 | 0.690 | 1.000 |
| Darco for Housing and Investment | 5430 | 2335 | 0.440 | 0.420 | 1.000 |
| Real Estate Investment (Aqroco) | 4409 | 4971 | 0.450 | 0.450 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Leasing Corporation | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments | 200 | 24 | 0.630 | 0.620 | 1.000 |
| Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajercero | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordanian Electric Power | 4125 | 6450 | 1.570 | 1.560 | 1.000 |
| Irbid District Electricity | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab International Hotels | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Hotels and Tourism | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Garage Owners Federation Office | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan National Shipping Lines | 250 | 213 | 0.840 | 0.850 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Press Foundation | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Press and Publishing | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Dar Al Shabab Press, Printing and Publishing | 24750 | 8658 | 0.350 | 0.340 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Dairy | 5220 | 5441 | 1.080 | 1.020 | 1.000 |
| Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing | 3166 | 6870 | 2.100 | 2.170 | 1.000 |
| Intermediate Petrochemical Industries | 39900 | 19128 | 1.060 | 1.080 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Phosphate Mines | 7651 | 2043 | 2.490 | 2.500 | 1.000 |
| Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj) | 1390 | 2043 | 1.470 | 1.470 | 1.000 |
| Arab Chemical Detergent Industries | 495 | 3682 | 5.300 | 5.400 | 1.000 |
| Aladdin Industries | 121235 | 137691 | 1.070 | 1.170 | 1.000 |
| Arab Aluminum Manufacturing | 57572 | 158836 | 1.830 | 1.820 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Worsted Mills | 1500 | 6900 | 4.550 | 4.600 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Ceramics | 5000 | 5400 | 1.080 | 1.080 | 1.000 |
| Chemical Industries | 2900 | 3449 | 1.200 | 1.200 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO) | 24450 | 17194 | 0.710 | 0.690 | 1.000 |
| Dar Al Aman for Development and Investment | 8139 | 11650 | 1.400 | 1.450 | 1.000 |
| National Steel Industries | 7377 | 20151 | 2.870 | 2.840 | 1.000 |
| Universal Chemical Industries | 30470 | 37138 | 1.160 | 1.210 | 1.000 |
| General Mining | 5209 | 39157 | 7.550 | 7.550 | 5.000 |
| Jordan Petroleum Refinery | 24400 | 1438 | 0.170 | 0.170 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Lime & Brick | 5600 | 2771 | 0.510 | 0.510 | 1.000 |
| National Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Paper Converting and Trading | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO) | 4025 | 3889 | 0.950 | 0.970 | 1.000 |
| Livestock and Poultry | 14641 | 10443 | 0.700 | 0.720 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Pipes Manufacturing | 950 | 1188 | 1.250 | 1.250 | 1.000 |
| Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags | 8340 | 22176 | 2.660 | 2.680 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Paper and Cardboard | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Rockwool Industries | 30250 | 12649 | 0.630 | 0.620 | 1.000 |
| Trans-Jordan Minerals Research | 5770 | 3500 | 0.750 | 0.600 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Hormel Mineral | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Orient Dry Batteries Factory | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Woolen Industries | 3375 | 1962 | 0.540 | 0.610 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Tanning | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Printing and Packaging | 62 | 884 | 14.250 | 14.250 | 5.000 |
| Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Mas Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals | 9150 | 8604 | 0.950 | 0.940 | 1.000 |
| National Cable & Wire Manufacturing | 31711 | 31159 | 0.980 | 0.970 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Spinning & Weaving | 87700 | 27271 | 3.300 | 3.250 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Sulpho Chemicals | 52003 | 54085 | 1.040 | 1.040 | 1.000 |
| Jordan Cement Factories | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Jordan Glass Industries | — | — | — | — | 1.000 |
| Grand total | 980,121 | 1,586,332 | | | |

Wealthy countries promise new aid for African debtors

PARIS (AP) — Donors pledged \$6.4 billion in African aid Friday in what World Bank officials called a crucial breakthrough in rescue efforts for the debt-plagued continent.

"This new partnership between donor nations and international agencies is a major turnaround," said Mr. Edward Jaycox, World Bank vice president for Africa.

In 15 hours of meetings, he said, donors agreed not only to work together on financing but also to coordinate their aid, breaking out of a past pattern that sometimes led to waste and confusion.

The idea was to help African leaders trim public jobs, cut food subsidies and make other politically risky sacrifices.

"What Africa really needs is growth," Mr. Jaycox said. "Our objective is not just to balance the numbers but to break these downward spirals."

Mr. Jaycox said donors promised \$3.2 billion in new funds, mostly grants, for the next three years. A similar amount already budgeted for long-term aid was freed for urgent use.

The aid is for 25 debt-saddled countries which had agreed to

return their economies under International Monetary Fund (IMF) guidance.

Donors include 15 Western nations, Japan, the European Community and the African Development Bank.

"You can fault everyone for being late on this," Mr. Jaycox said in an interview. "But we've been working hard to bring this about. The whole thing is dependent on the Africans, of whom I'm very proud."

Zambia, he noted, was a grim example of what happens when programmes are underfunded. President Kenneth Kaunda cut food subsidies

Church, unions call for strike to oust Haiti junta

150 U.S. officials, families being evacuated

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Three major trade unions and a top presidential candidate has called for a general strike to oust the ruling junta, which was blamed for rampant violence that aborted national elections.

The Roman Catholic Church also urged Haitians to keep the military-dominated junta from making its own election rules and charged the army was responsible for the wave of terror sweeping through this poverty-stricken Caribbean nation.

The Autonomous Central of Haitian Workers, the country's largest labour group, in a communiqué broadcast by Radio Metropole on Friday urged Haitians to "throw out the criminals and the candidates that sympathise with the junta."

President candidate Sylvio Claude, the Association of Public Employees and the Union of Public Transport Drivers joined the Autonomous Central's call for a nationwide walkout to start Monday.

"If the junta does not resign, we ask for the intervention of a Multinational Observer Force to supervise elections and guarantee security," said Claude, whose previous call for a strike to start

Friday drew no support, apparently because it was hastily organised.

Last Sunday, the civilian Electoral Council stopped elections three hours after balloting had begun to save voters from being killed. Soldiers as well as marauding gangs linked to the military-dominated junta roamed Port Au Prince, shooting down people at random in the streets and slaughtering others at voting stations.

When voting stopped, the violence abated. But at the end of the day 34 people were dead, 75 were wounded and Haiti's first free election in at least 20 years was derailed.

The junta, led by Lt.-Gen. Henri Namphy, has governed Haiti since a popular uprising chased President Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier out of the country on Feb. 7, 1986. Duvalier's flight into exile ended a family dictatorship begun in 1957 by his father, Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier.

7 killed in Filipino election-related violence

MANILA (R) — Seven people, including two local election candidates, were reported killed and three wounded in two separate incidents in the Philippines.

The deaths brought to four the number of candidates killed since the campaign for the Jan. 18 local elections started a week ago.

Government television said on Saturday that 10 armed men ambushed a convoy in a Bulacan province on Friday carrying the government's mayoral candidate

He said Carmona, a former

U.S. reaffirms support for Sri Lankan peace pact

COLOMBO (R) — President Ronald Reagan wrote to President Junius Jayewardene and reaffirmed U.S. support for a peace accord aimed at ending Sri Lanka's Tamil revolt. Sri Lankan officials said on Saturday.

They said the letter was delivered to the Foreign Ministry on Friday, the day the United States and 15 other countries of an aid consortium were meeting in Paris to discuss Sri Lankan rehabilitation of war-damaged areas.

A U.S. embassy spokesman confirmed a letter signed by Mr. Reagan was sent to Mr. Jayewardene but declined comment on its contents.

Sri Lankan officials said the letter reiterated Washington's support for the peace pact. Mr. Jayewardene signed with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in July, and committed a certain amount of aid to Sri Lanka's rehabilitation programme.

Officials from the U.S. Agency for International Aid said this week the United States was unlikely to pledge any specific amount at the Paris meeting because of U.S. budget problems.

They said a general statement expressing firm support for Sri Lanka's rehabilitation would instead be made at the World

mayor of Nasipit in Agusan Del Norte province, and his campaign leaders were meeting outside a supporter's home when the young gunman sprayed them with bullets.

Also on Friday, unidentified gunmen killed a police captain in a Manila suburb, and a police station commander was killed in Arayat, north of the capital, in an incident the military blamed on Communist rebels.

He said Carmona, a former

Leonardo San Andres and his running mate Alfredo De Leon.

San Andres, a former mayor of Pandi town north of Manila, survived the attack but former police chief De Leon and four aides were killed.

Mayoral Candidate Pedro Carmona and an aide were shot dead and two companions wounded by three gunmen in a southern town on Friday, a military spokesman said.

He said Carmona, a former

gunmen killed a police captain in a Manila suburb, and a police station commander was killed in Arayat, north of the capital, in an incident the military blamed on Communist rebels.

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Ganilau appointed Fijian president

SUVA (R) — Former Governor-General Ratu Sir Peoaia Ganilau was appointed the first president of the republic of Fiji on Saturday as coup leader Brig. Sitiveni Rabuka stepped aside as Fiji's head of government.

After elections were cancelled, Gen. Namphy's group issued a decree dissolving the Electoral Council and asking churches and other civic organisations to name a new one.

None of the nine organisations

that chose the original council members complied with the decree. Friday and four of them publicly condemned it as unconstitutional. They represent churches, civil rights workers, journalists and other non-governmental groups.

An official source said the junta would name a new election panel if civilian organisations do not.

Haiti's constitution gives the

Electoral Council complete

charge of the election process

until an elected president and

National Assembly take office on

Feb. 7, 1988, the second

anniversary of Duvalier's flight.

Electoral Council members,

some of whom went into biding

fearing for their lives, saw

any election held without their

supervision is illegal.

All four major presidential

candidates have called Gen.

Namphy's decree unconstitutional,

and most have said they will

not run in an election his junta

organised.

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